

**SB 1441 (as to be amended):**  
Lara, Corbett, de León, Hill, Monning, Roth, Torres, Steinberg

***Banning Fundraisers at Lobbyist's Homes***

**Why the Changes are Needed:**

Currently, the Political Reform Act (the Act) provides for a \$500 home hospitality exception for fundraisers, where the first \$500 does not count as a contribution. This exception does not specifically exclude lobbyists. At the same time lobbyists are prohibited entirely from giving any campaign contributions to elected officials. The value of all goods provided, regardless of source, counts towards the \$500 threshold. Once the threshold is met the value of all goods count as campaign contributions. This leads to a situation where it is virtually impossible to have a fundraiser in a lobbyist's home or office without having an illegal contribution.

**Current System:**

- There is a "home hospitality," exemption of \$500 for the value of goods provided for events held at a personal residence.
- Lobbyists are allowed to hold fundraisers at their homes as long as the value of goods provided does not exceed \$500.
- Once the \$500 threshold is met, the value of everything provided for the event is counted as a campaign contribution.
- Lobbyists are prohibited from making campaign contributions of any kind.

**Problems with Current System:**

- If the value of goods provided at fundraisers in lobbyist's homes exceeds \$500, lobbyists and elected officials are both in violation of the Act.
- It appears the rules have no meaning when lobbyists cannot purchase a meal in excess of \$10 for a member, but can invite them to their home where they can provide up to \$500 worth of expensive amenities (food, liquor, cigars etc.).
- Nearly impossible for elected officials to assess value of all goods provided during fundraisers in lobbyist's homes.

**Solution:**

- Establish a ban on all fundraisers taking place in a lobbyists' home.